



WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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July 1, 2013

To: Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
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MOTION TO DIRECT THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO WORK WITH THE LEGISLATURE TO INCREASE THE PENALTIES FOR ASSAULTS AGAINST BUS AND RAIL OPERATORS, WITH A REPORT BACK TO THE BOARD IN 30 DAYS (SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA ITEM NO. 60-C, MEETING OF JULY 2, 2013)

Item No. 60-C on the July 2, 2013 Supplemental Agenda is a motion by Supervisor Antonovich directing the Chief Executive Officer to work with the Legislature to increase the penalties for assaults against our bus and rail operators, with a report back to the Board in 30 days.

Existing law prescribes that every person who commits an assault with a weapon or by force likely to produce great bodily injury upon the operator, driver, or passenger on a bus or other motor vehicle, when the driver is engaged in the performance of his or her duties, and where the person who commits the assault knows that the victim is engaged in the performance of his or her duties, shall be punished by imprisonment in State prison for three, four, or five years.

Existing law also prescribes that an assault committed against any person on the property of a public transportation provider shall be punished by a fine up to \$2,000, or by imprisonment in a county jail up to one year, or by both.

In May, two bus operators of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) were attacked in unprovoked assaults, one in Studio City and another in West Hills. Both bus operators were struck after requesting fare from the assailants and suffered from concussions and other injuries.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

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Each Supervisor
July 1, 2013
Page 2

The County's State Legislative Agenda does not contain any Board-approved policies related to assaults on bus and rail operators. **Therefore, approval of this motion is a matter of Board policy determination.**

Should the Board approve this motion, it is important to note and consider that the Legislature adjourns for its summer recess on July 3, 2013 and will not reconvene until August 12, 2013 and, therefore, this office and the Sacramento advocates will be unable to work with the Legislature on this matter until they return in mid-August.

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:RA
MR:KA:KL:ma

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority